

ANNUAL REPORTS 2014-2015

COUNCILLOR Sue Allen

Whitland Electoral Ward



Dear Resident

The purpose of this report is to keep you informed of some of the issues being dealt with on your behalf during 2014-15. I hope that you will find this information of interest

If there are any issues that are causing you concern then please do not hesitate to contact me:

<i>Address</i>	Penycoed Farm Whitland Carmarthenshire SA34 0LR
<i>Telephone</i>	01994 240036 (diverts to mobile)
<i>E.Mail</i>	SMAllen@carmarthenshire.gov.uk

Local Member Activities

County Council Committees

Appeals Committee

Education and Children Committee

Standards Committee

Health and Social Care Committee

Planning Committee (substitute)

Corporate Parenting Panel

Membership of School Governing Bodies

<i>School Governing Body</i>	<i>Meetings attended</i>
Dyffryn Taf Comprehensive School	Full Governors and Buildings and Finance Committee
Chair of Governors, Ysgol Llys Hywel	Full Governors and Buildings and Finance Committee
	Three annual meetings at each committee


Membership of Outside Bodies (representing the County Council)

<i>Outside Body</i>	<i>Meetings attended</i>
Hywel Dda Centre Management Committee - Chair	6 annual meetings
St John's Council for Carmarthenshire	2/3 annual meetings
Oriel Myrddin Gallery – Trustee	3 annual meetings
Standing Advisory Council on Religious Education (SACRE) (Substitute)	None required.
Bro Myrddin Housing Association Board (new appointment)	

Other activities in connection with my duties as a County Councillor

- County Councillors report to the Community Council in Henllanfallteg every two months.
- Monthly report to Whitland Town Council on County Council issues.
- Additional site or other meetings as requested by Local Councillors, or the Community Police
- Facilitate joint meetings with County Council Officers, Residents and/or local Business.
- Ensure that residents and local business requests are facilitated through the County Council Officers or by kind local people and business prepared to help solve an unconventional problem.
- Have recently been appointed to represent the Council on Bro Myrddin Housing Association Board.

Subjects	Main Issues
<i>Planning</i>	<i>The Dairy site planning application for 28 houses remains outstanding despite no local objection and local requests for a house or bungalow on site there. The whole site remains a challenge.</i>
<i>Street Scene</i>	<i>A new car park area has been fenced off on St Mary Street by kind permission of the site owners as a result of some years of negotiation. It will be managed by the Town Council under licence. Road lines are repainted on request and I monitor in particular the ones on the Fishers Corner which wear away quickly. It could be unsafe if vehicles cross the central lines on the bend. A new pavement has been provided to the recycle centre. This pavement may help encourage footfall from the cattle market to come to support the Town. Extra bins have been placed at the North Road car park. Annually remind Pembrokeshire County Council to clear the drains on Waungron Hill in the Autumn. Monitor and request clearance of drains after building works at other locations that cause particular problems for residents. Adverse surface water flooding reported.</i>
<i>Transportation</i>	<i>The grant bid for “safe routes in communities” has been submitted to Wales Assembly Government and Whitland awaits some good news to remove unsafe traffic from travelling up North Road. The Train Station has now been renovated and has offices within the building staffed by Network Rail staff. The cycle rack at the Train Station is now in place and thanks to Whitland Engineering for their assistance. The Cardi Bach Society has started and the group wants to log the historical documents and equipment as well as opening the route as a cycle/walking route. Ownership of the land en route is being researched.</i>
<i>Education & Children</i>	<i>Safe Routes in Communities grant bid to WAG will join the two schools with safe walking/cycling routes and remove buses from North Road.</i>

<p><i>Regeneration & Leisure</i></p>	<p><i>Ongoing work with the Parc Dr Owen Committee and the Town Council to install a cycle pump track for teenagers. A sculptural seat has been installed at the Parc and the start of a Roman Herb garden is in place.</i></p>  <p><i>Always seeking potential opportunities for the former dairy site.</i></p>
<p><i>Environmental Health</i></p>	<p><i>Supported the County Council in working towards solving ongoing issues at Westover, which is privately owned. Still a major problem and very frustrated at the limited powers to deal with this level of mess on private land where people still have to live. Ongoing work on a number of initiatives to reduce the carbon footprint of the Town.</i></p> <p><i>Last year encouraged the Town Councillors towards taking over the toilets from Carmarthenshire County Council in order to have 24 hour access to hot water for hand washing and very smart toilets to enhance the visitor experience and market the Town. This has been a success and thank you to those that respect the premises. 24 hour opening is a risk but to the greater good since there are not dedicated disabled access toilets in the local shops and hostelries. The toilets are a well used facility.</i></p> <p><i>I notice that at bank holidays a build up of rubbish happens at the Bryngwenllian playground and will seek to address this since it gets extra use at those times.</i></p>
<p><i>Social Care</i></p>	<p><i>Ongoing assistance to individual residents for improved home facilities or new accommodation to support changing health needs. For example, ramps, electrical points for scooters, showers and similar.</i></p>

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AT FORMAL MEETINGS OF CARMARTHENSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL AND ITS COMMITTEES 2014/15

Meetings	Council	Community Scrutiny Committee	Education & Children Scrutiny Committee	Environmental & Public Protection Scrutiny Committee	Social Care & Health Scrutiny Committee	Appeals Committee	Planning Committee	Standards Committee	Total number of meetings	
Actual No held	13	5	9	3	8	0	6	6	50	
COUNCILLORS	PRESENT	PRESENT	PRESENT	PRESENT	PRESENT	PRESENT	PRESENT	PRESENT	NUMBER OF MEETINGS ATTENDED	PERCENTAGE ATTENDANCE
*Allen SM	11	5	7	3	8	0	6	5	45	90%

SUBSTITUTED FOR A MEMBER OF A COMMITTEE